कुलू में आकाशवाणी केंद्र

*240. **श्री महेश्वर सिंह** : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने कुल्लू (हिमाचल प्रदेश) में प्रस्तावित आकाशवाणी केन्द्र की स्थापना के लिए किसी उपयुक्त स्थान को चुन लिया है ;

(ख) क्या टावर निर्माण का कार्य आरम्भ हो गया है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो निर्माण कार्य कब आरम्भ किया गया और इसके कब तक पूरा हो जाने की संभावना है ; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं और यह कार्य कब तक शुरू किये जाने की संभावना है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (कुमारी गिरिजा व्यास) : (क) से (घ) ट्रांसमीटर, स्टूडियो, कार्यालय और स्टाफ क्वार्टरों के लिए पर्याप्त स्थान उपलब्ध न होने के कारण कुल्लू में स्थानीय रेडियो केन्द्र के स्थान पर केवल रिले केन्द्र स्थापित करने का निर्णय लिया गया है । इस प्रयोजन के लिए लगाए जाने वाले 75 मीटर के टावर का कार्य अभी आरंभ नहीं हुआ है । वर्तमान संकेतों के अनुसार यह रिले केन्द्र मार्च, 1994 तक तकनीकी रूप से तैयार हो जाएगा ।

Exploration of Atomic Minerals in A.P.

@1440. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether exploratory drilling and mining for Atomic minerals were conducted in Cuddapah district of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

@Previously Unstarred Question 944, transferred from the 17th July, 1992.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir. Exploration drilling and small-scale experimental mining for uranium are in progress in parts of Cuddapah District, Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Exploratory drilling was commenced at Tummalapalle, Cuddapah District, Andhra Pradesh in 1987. So far 44,520 metres of cumulative drilling has been carried out at Tummalapalle, Rachakuntapalle, Gadankipalle, Bakanagaripalle, Velamvaripalle, Kannampalle, and Motnutalapalle along the southwest margin of Cuddapah basin. At T. Sundapalle, 1966 metres of exploratory drilling has been completed over basement granite. Small-scale experimental mining at Tummalappalle was taken up in July 1991 for obtaining bulk ore samples for ore beneficiation studies. So far, 74 metres of mining has been completed. Mining operations are being carried out on contract basis by the Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL).

Control of food irradiation

1441. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to introduce legislation for controlling food irradiation based on the existing atomic energy laws and food laws; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF

ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): Yes, Sir.

(b) The Atomic Energy (Control of Irradiation of Food) Rules, 1990 have already been published in the Gazette of India dated March 2, 1991 for the control of food irradiation. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare are in the process of notifying the amendments to the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 in order to enable domestic consumption of irradiated food.

Manufacture of LAB

1442. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licences/promoters who have applied for permission to manufacture linear alkyl benzene (LAB) from the kerosene stage with names of the units;

(b) whether Government have taken any decision on the issue; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) After the liberalisation of industrial licensing policy in July, 1991, Linear Alkyl Benzene (LAB) is exempt from the licensing provisions. The promoters are free to manufacture LAB from either kerosene or some other stage. No permission is required in this regard.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Shortage of Life Saving Drugs

1443. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is acute shortage of life saving drugs like GARDINAL SODIUM, METHOTREXATE, DIOGOXIN PG etc. for the last two weeks is reported in the Hindustan Times dated 16th June, 1992;

(b) whether Government are also aware that recent hike in the price of raw material imported for manufacture of these drugs is responsible for raising drug prices as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 24th June, 1992; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken so far to bring down the prices of such life saving drugs like anti-cancer, anti-epilepsy and anti-tuberculosin etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) The position of the reported shortages has been analysed. Most of the shortages so reported are of specific brands and of medicines having low turn-over. In most such cases, equivalent medicines are available in other brands or generic name. In case of Vitamin C, there were problems in regard to pricing of bulk drug and formulations which have since been tackled and the situation should normalise soon.

(b) In a situation of rising costs of inputs, certain amount of increase in prices is inevitable. The increase is relatively higher in those drugs